



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/011,634	04/03/98	ARONHIME	M P16370

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IM22/0228

EXAMINER

GRENDZYNSKI, M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1774

DATE MAILED:

02/28/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/011,634

Applicant(s)

Aronhime et al.

Examiner

Grendzynski, Michael E.

Group Art Unit

1774



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 8, 1999

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 1 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-65 is/are pending in the applicat

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☒ Claims 1-65 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

Art Unit: 1774

DETAILED ACTION

The lack of unity of invention requirement made in paper No. 8 is moot in light of the instant lack of unity of invention requirement.

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372. This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in response to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-28 and 60, drawn to a method of producing a multi-layered image transfer member.

Group II, claim(s) 29-45, drawn to an image transfer member comprising silicone release layer.

Group III, claims 46-47, drawn to an apparatus for producing a multi-layered image.

Group IV, claim(s) 48-57, drawn to a image transfer receiving sheet.

Group V, claim(s) 58-59, drawn to an image transfer blanket.

Group VI, claims 61-64, drawn to an intermediate transfer sheet comprising a drum.

Group VII, claim 65, drawn to a carrier layer.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I-VII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Where a group of inventions is claimed in an application, the requirement of unity of invention shall be fulfilled only when there is a *special technical relationship*

Art Unit: 1774

among those inventions involving one or more of the same corresponding technical features which define a contribution over the prior art. 37 CFR 1.475. The special technical feature of the present invention--an image transfer member suitable for the transfer of toner images and having an outer release layer of silicon--does not define a contribution over the prior art, as is revealed by Clemens on col. 3, lines 23-28. Consequently, a lack of unity of invention exists. See 37 CFR 1.475 and MPEP § 1850.

3. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

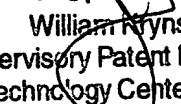
Conclusion

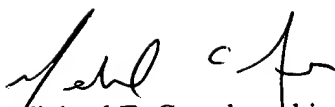
5. Should you have any questions concerning this communication, please direct them to Michael E. Grendzynski at telephone number (703) 305-0593. The examiner can be reached at this number from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone prove unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Krynski, can be reached at (703) 308-2376. Please allow the examiner twenty-four hours to return your call.

Art Unit: 1774

A facsimile center has been established for Group 1700 on the 8th floor of Crystal Plaza 3. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:45 am to 4:45 pm. The fax numbers for Art Unit 1774 are (703) 305-3599 for official after final faxes, and (703)305-5408 for all other official faxes. Use of the Group 1700 center will facilitate rapid delivery of materials to examiners in Art Unit 1774.

Any inquiry of a general nature, or those relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2351.


William Krynski
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700


Michael E. Grendzynski
Assistant Examiner
February 15, 2000